

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

21. (currently amended) A nucleotide triphosphate comprising a covalently attached electron transfer moiety comprising a transition metal complex.
22. (currently amended) A The nucleotide according to claim 21 wherein said electron transfer moiety is attached to the ribose of said nucleotide.
23. (currently amended) A The nucleotide according to claim 21 wherein said electron transfer moiety is attached to the ribose via a linker at the 2' position.
24. (currently amended) A The nucleotide according to claim 21 wherein said electron transfer moiety is a transition metal complex.
25. (currently amended) A The nucleotide according to claim 24 wherein said transition metal complex comprises a ruthenium atom.
26. (currently amended) A The nucleotide according to claim 24 wherein said transition metal complex comprises an iron atom.
27. (currently amended) A method of making a nucleic acid comprising a covalently attached electron transfer moiety comprising a transition metal complex, said method comprising:
- a) providing a nucleotide comprising a covalently attached electron transfer moiety comprising a transition metal complex;
 - b) converting said ~~modified~~ nucleotide into a modified nucleotide triphosphate; and
 - c) incorporating said modified nucleotide triphosphate in a synthetic reaction to form a nucleic acid with a covalently attached electron transfer moiety.

Serial No.: 09/866,067

Filed: May 23, 2001

28. (currently amended) ~~A~~ The method according to claim 27 wherein said electron transfer moiety is attached to the ribose of said nucleotide.

29. (currently amended) ~~A~~ The method according to claim 27 wherein said electron transfer moiety is attached to the ribose via a linker at the 2' position.

30. (currently amended) ~~A~~ The method according to claim 27 wherein said electron transfer moiety is a transition metal complex.

31. (currently amended) ~~A~~ The method according to claim 30 wherein said transition metal complex comprises ruthenium.

32. (currently amended) ~~A~~ The method according to claim 30 wherein said transition metal complex comprises iron.